

HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF NJ

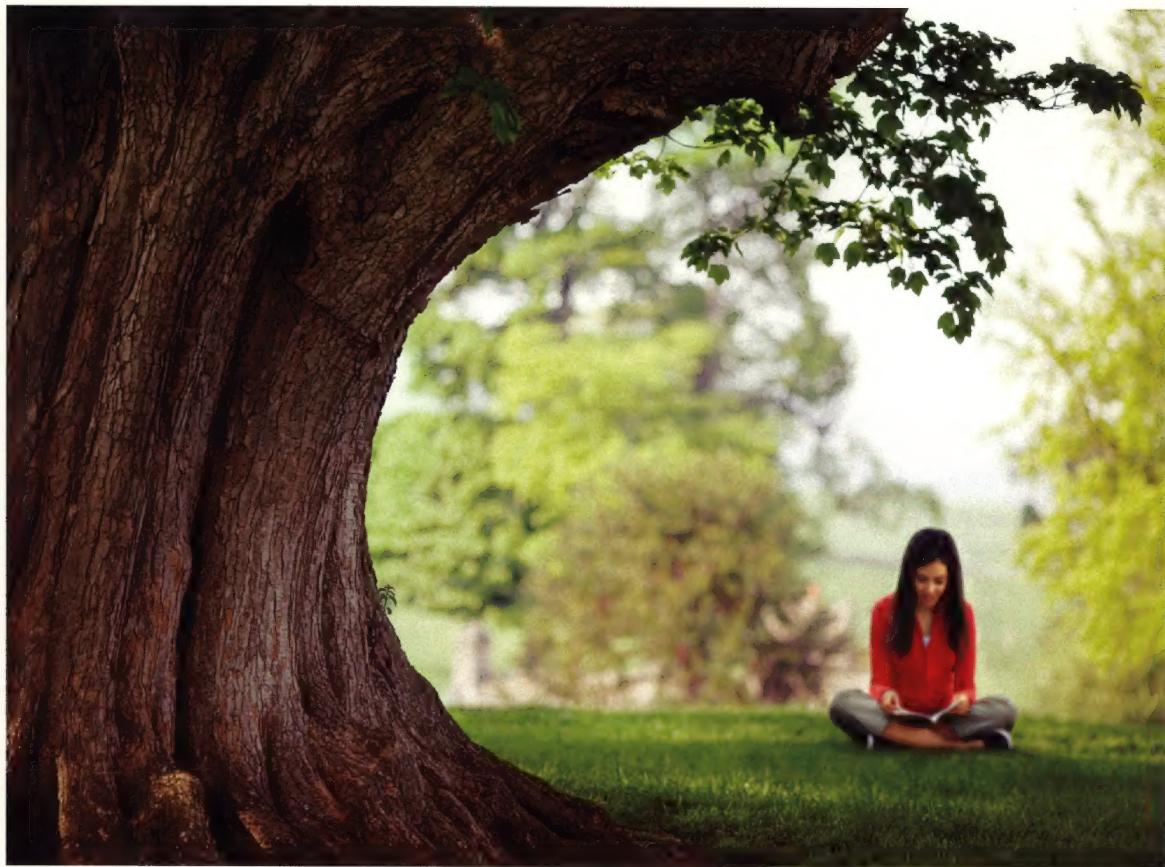


30<sup>th</sup>  
Annual  
Scholarship  
Gala  
and  
Awards  
Dinner

*Celebrating Excellence  
Through Diversity*

Saturday, July 16, 2011  
6:00 pm – 11:00 pm

New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC)  
One Center Street, Newark, NJ 07102



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## MISSION STATEMENT

Founded in 1980, the HBA-NJ is a 501(c)(6) statewide organization which represents the interests of attorneys, judges, law professors and law students who share a common interest in resolving the issues affecting Hispanics within the legal community.

The purpose of the Association is to serve the public interest: (i) by cultivating the art and science of jurisprudence, (ii) by advancing the standing of the legal profession, and (iii) by preserving high standards of integrity, honor, and professional courtesy among Hispanic lawyers.

The HBA-NJ is a very active bar association. In addition to its many initiatives, programs, and public advocacy activities, the HBA-NJ cooperates with other Hispanic bar organizations, with other Hispanic community, business, civic, charitable and cultural organizations, as well as with other legal organizations and in furtherance of the aforementioned purposes.

## PROGRAM

6:00 PM

### COCKTAIL RECEPTION

*Musical entertainment featuring Elio Villafranca*  
Theater Square Grill

7:00 PM

### DINNER

Prudential Lobby

### EVENING CEREMONY

#### WELCOME REMARKS

Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq., President, HBA-NJ

#### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Daniel Mateo, Esq., President-Elect, HBA-NJ

#### SPECIAL HONOREE

*Presented by Ramon de la Cruz, Esq.*

Johnny Pacheco, Founder of Fania Records, "Fania All-Stars"

#### WITH SPECIAL AWARDS TO

Honorable Jose Linares, U.S.D.J.

United States District Court for the District of New Jersey

Recipient of the Margarita Echevarria Trailblazer Award

Lowenstein Sandler

*Accepted by Gary M. Wingens, Esq., Zulima Farber, Esq.*

*and Miguel A. Pozo, Esq.*

Recipient of the Corporate Law Department of the Year Award

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Juan Cartagena, Esq., President and General Counsel of LatinoJustice PRLDEF

Recipient of the Legacy Award

#### SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

*Presented by the Honorable Miguel A. de la Carrera, J.S.C.*

*and J. Andres Mayor, Esq.*

#### DESSERT AND DANCING

*Musical entertainment featuring Orquesta Broadway*  
Theater Square Grill

## 2010-2011 HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq., President**

**Daniel Mateo, Esq., President - Elect**

**Louis Acevedo, Esq., Vice President**

**Jose I. Bastarrika, Esq., Treasurer**

**Michael J. Plata, Esq., Recording Secretary**

**Anna Maria Tejada, Esq., Membership Secretary**

**Geida D. Sanlate, Esq., Press Secretary**

**Juan Cartagena, Esq., General Counsel**

**Anneris Virginia Hernandez, Trustee - Region 1 (Hudson County)**

**Danielle C. Carmona, Esq., Trustee - Region 2 (Essex County)**

**Jaclyn Medina, Esq., Trustee - Region 3 (Bergen County)**

**Zoila Cassanova, Esq., Trustee - Region 4 (Passaic County)**

**J. Andres Mayor, Esq., Trustee - Region 5 (Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties)**

**Monica E. de los Rios, Trustee - Region 6 (Union County)**

**Arlene Quiñones Perez, Trustee - Region 7 (Mercer, Somerset, Hunterdon Counties)**

**Julia A. López, Esq., Trustee - Region 8 (Middlesex County)**

**Albertina Webb, Esq., Trustee - Region 9 (Monmouth and Ocean Counties)**

**Carlos M. Bollar, Esq., Trustee - Region 10 (Camden, Burlington and Gloucester Counties)**

**Matthew Fernandez Konigsberg, Esq., Trustee at Large**

**William Ferreira, Esq., Trustee at Large**

**Jason Elliot Macias, Esq., Trustee at Large**

**Melinda Colón, Esq., Trustee at Large (YLC)**

**Felipe Chavana, Esq., Trustee at Large (5 Yrs +)**

**Miguel Alexander Pozo, Esq., Immediate Past President**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Honorees, Scholarship Recipients, Sponsors, and Guests,

Welcome to the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey's ("HBA-NJ") 30th Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards Dinner. I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to this evening's honorees: The Honorable Jose Linares, U.S.D.J.; Juan Cartagena, Esq., President and General Counsel of LatinoJustice PRLDEF; Lowenstein Sandler (represented by Gary Wingens, Esq., Zulima Farber, Esq. and Miguel A. Pozo, Esq.); and Johnny Pacheco. Each of these distinguished honorees have been long-time supporters of the HBA-NJ and its mission.

I am proud to be a member and to have humbly served as President of an organization that has empowered the Hispanic legal community and beyond for over 30 years. The HBA-NJ's ability to affect change is surely an achievement, but there is more work to do, more lives to influence, and more causes for which to advocate. The need for the HBA-NJ's work is ever more present today. The 2010 census revealed that Hispanics grew 43% since 2000 to 50.5 million – now comprising 16.3% of the nation's population. Hispanics are now the largest minority group in New Jersey. Further, Hispanic buying power exceeds \$1 trillion and is expected to reach \$1.3 trillion by 2015. These figures, however, are met with the grim reality that compared to other major racial and ethnic groups, Hispanics have the lowest numbers in professional occupations and positions of leadership. In fact, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that as of 2009, Hispanics made up only 2.8% of lawyers. This shockingly low figure raises additional concerns when you consider recent studies that reported that the number of minority attorneys in law firms has actually dropped since 2009. In particular, law firms lost 9.7% of their Hispanic attorneys.

Clearly, these statistics emphatically confirm that the HBA-NJ must continue to be strong and present. It must continue to serve as the cohesive voice of the Hispanic legal community in New Jersey. The HBA-NJ's work is far from finished, but I am confident that the HBA-NJ is ready for the challenge. This year, the HBA-NJ rolled up its sleeves and fervently pushed forward *la lucha*. In the community, the HBA-NJ successfully planned and executed the Women's Leadership Conference and launched its inaugural partnership with the Latino Professional Junior Achievement Community Initiative. In September, the HBA-NJ will hold its first Civics Education Initiative Program, which is aimed at educating the community about their rights across several areas of the law. The HBA-NJ held its annual Wine Tasting and Sun, Surf & Seminars where members, colleagues and friends networked, strengthened ties, and learned about recent developments of the law. The HBA-NJ's Young Lawyers Committee implemented programming for young lawyers' continued professional development and engaged in several effective charitable and community service events. The HBA-NJ also championed the representation of the Hispanic community in the legal profession by identifying and endorsing qualified members for positions to the bench and other public offices.

This evening, the spirit of the HBA-NJ's work is best celebrated as trailblazers are recognized for paving the path and, most importantly, the youth are empowered to pursue and achieve their dreams of becoming lawyers and advocates for the Hispanic community. The scholarship recipients are a group of impressive young people who provide hope for our community. I am confident that, with the talented leadership in the ranks of the HBA-NJ, the increase in membership, and the continued support of sponsors, the HBA-NJ's work will continue to mobilize the community, affect real change, and ultimately, overcome any daunting statistic.

Thank you for joining the HBA-NJ this evening and celebrating its work.

In solidarity,

Suzette T. Rodriguez  
31<sup>st</sup> President  
Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey



July 16, 2011

Dear HBA-NJ Members, Colleagues, Supporters, and Guests:

As Immediate Past President, it is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey's ("HBA-NJ") 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala and Dinner Dance.

First, allow me to extend a special greeting to my longtime friend, and current HBA-NJ President, Suzette Rodriguez. Under her sound leadership, the HBA-NJ has continued to serve as the voice of New Jersey's Hispanic community. This year, our community faced many challenges -- from redistricting to immigration reform to continued calls for diversity on the state and federal benches. I am proud to say that the HBA-NJ was present and met - and continues to meet - each of those challenges.

I am equally excited about our future leadership. Later this year, two of my close friends step into significant leadership roles: Dan Mateo assumes the helm of the HBA-NJ as its 32nd President and Anna Maria Tejada succeeds me as Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) Regional President for Region III (NJ). Now, more than ever, our community needs strong leaders like Anna Maria and Dan. I am sure that they will build on the work begun by Suzette, Ivette Alvarez, Judge Pedro J. Jimenez, J.S.C., Judge Lourdes Santiago, J.S.C., Griselle Camacho, Zulima Farber, Margarita Echevarría, and so many others.

Second, I am pleased to congratulate this year's honorees. Judge Jose Linares, U.S.D.J. has been a mentor and friend to so many of us. He has truly made an indelible mark on the New Jersey legal and Hispanic communities. As a Past President of the HBA-NJ, he helped to strengthen our Association and even donated his own funds so that the HBA-NJ could provide law student scholarships. As a jurist and trailblazer on the federal court bench in New Jersey, he has repeatedly made all New Jerseyans proud with his sound intellect and well-reasoned decisions.

Juan Cartagena is a champion of the civil rights movement in New Jersey and beyond. There is no doubt that he will take on his latest challenge as President and General Counsel of *LatinoJustice PRLDEF* with the same passionate advocacy and legal acumen with which he has served the legal profession for many years. I am especially proud that Juan served me, and several presidents before me, as HBA-NJ General Counsel. We will sorely miss his advice, counsel, and quick wit, but know that he will not be too far away.

A heartfelt thank you to my firm, my Partner Zulima Farber, and Gary Wingens, Chairman and CEO of Lowenstein Sandler. Since Alan V. Lowenstein, a native of Newark, founded the firm in 1961, Lowenstein has been an untiring champion for diversity in the legal profession and a true partner to the HBA-NJ. In fact, Lowenstein is the only large New Jersey law firm to have had two of its partners serve as HBA-NJ Presidents.

I extend special congratulations to another HBA-NJ Past President, Judge Esther Salas, U.S.M.J., who later this year will be sworn in as the first female Hispanic District Court Judge on the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. This is a historic achievement for Judge Salas, for the Hispanic community, and for the State of New Jersey.

Finally, as HNBA Regional President and Midyear Conference Co-chair, I personally invite you to "*New Jersey: Gateway to America*," the HNBA's Annual Corporate Counsel Conference and 17th Annual Uvaldo Herrera Moot Court Competition, at the Westin Hotel Newport in Jersey City, New Jersey, from March 28-31, 2012. New Jersey has never hosted the HNBA Midyear Conference and this year marks the 20th Anniversary since the HNBA hosted its Annual Convention here in 1991. We hope that you will all join us.

Thank you and enjoy tonight's program.

Sincerely,

/s/ Miguel Alexander Pozo

Miguel Alexander Pozo

Immediate Past President, Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey

Regional President, Hispanic National Bar Association



## WELCOME FROM THE HNBA NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

It is my pleasure to join you for the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey's (HBA-NJ) 30th Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards Dinner, "Celebrating Excellence Through Diversity." On behalf of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) Board of Governors, I would like to thank Suzette T. Rodriguez, HBA-NJ President, Dan Mateo, HBA-NJ President-Elect, and your board for your admirable leadership this year and for the invitation to be a part of such an amazing evening. The HNBA is truly delighted to attend this event together with your members, students, sponsors, partners, and friends to celebrate your association's successes and to honor the deserving honorees and scholarship recipients.

I would also like to congratulate this evening's distinguished honorees: Johnny Pacheco, Founder of Fania Records; Juan Cartagena, President and General Counsel of LatinoJustice PRLDEF; the Honorable Jose Linares, U.S.D.J. for the United States District Court of New Jersey, and Lowenstein Sandler PC, with Zulima Farber and Miguel Pozo accepting on the firm's behalf. These honorees are the epitome of professional excellence in their fields and are renowned for initiating positive change in their Community. I have the great honor of working with Mr. Cartagena at LatinoJustice and can personally attest to his tireless commitment and dedication to our community. Miguel Pozo is an active member of our HNBA Board and serves with distinction.

HBA-NJ is not only a past recipient of our HNBA Affiliate of the Year Award, but it continues to serve as a model to our other affiliates. For this, we very much thank the HBA-NJ and appreciate its invaluable leadership and service to our Community. We look forward to our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana S. Sen".

Diana S. Sen



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
P.O. BOX 001  
TRENTON  
08625  
(609) 292-6000

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
GOVERNOR

KIM GUADAGNO  
LT. GOVERNOR

July 16, 2011

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, we are pleased to extend greetings to everyone attending the 30th Annual Scholarship Gala of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey.

Since its inception, the HBA-NJ has worked tirelessly to increase professional opportunities for Hispanics within the legal profession. The HBA-NJ is comprised of dedicated professionals who have demonstrated the utmost commitment to serving the public interest as well as promoting the advancement of Hispanic Americans in the legal community. We commend the Association for providing New Jersey's exceptional Hispanic law students with access to scholarship opportunities that assist them in reaching their goals.

Special recognition is in order for tonight's award recipients whose work within the Hispanic community best reflects the mission of the HBA-NJ to promote excellence, equality and opportunity for all. We join with everyone gathered tonight in applauding their many professional achievements.

Best wishes to all for an enjoyable and successful event.

Sincerely,

The signature of Chris Christie, Governor of New Jersey, in blue ink.

Chris Christie  
Governor

The signature of Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor of New Jersey, in blue ink.

Kim Guadagno  
Lt. Governor



SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ  
UNITED STATES SENATE  
NEW JERSEY

July 16, 2011

Dear Friends,

Please accept my warmest wishes as you gather this evening for the 30th Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards Dinner at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. This year's theme of "Celebrating Excellence Through Diversity" recognizes the outstanding work of tonight's honored guests and rising scholars.

The Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey (HBA-NJ) consists of a strong network of attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students who share a passion in solving issues that affect Hispanics within the legal community. Since its inception, it has worked tirelessly to provide Hispanic law students with the financial support necessary to assist them in their pursuit of a career in the legal profession. I applaud HBA-NJ for its dedicated efforts and unwavering commitment to defending the important values of truth, justice, and democracy in the State of New Jersey.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize tonight's honorees – Juan Cartagena Esq., President and General Counsel for LatinoJustice PRLDEF, recipient of the Legacy Award; the Honorable Jose Linares, U.S.D.J., recipient of the Margarita Echevarria Trailblazer Award; and Lowenstein Sandler, recipient of the Corporate Law Department of the Year Award. I also send greetings to Salsa legend Johnny Pacheco, the founder of Fania Records and "the Fania All-Stars," for his dedication to the community. I salute each of the honorees for their strong support and commitment to HBA-NJ's mission.

As your United States Senator, I am dedicated to improving the lives of all New Jerseyans. Best wishes for a memorable and successful evening.

Sincerely,

  
ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator

Paid for by MENENDEZ FOR SENATE, INC. 



## NEW JERSEY LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

ALBERT COUTINHO  
ASSEMBLYMAN, 29TH DISTRICT  
ANNETTE QUILJANO  
ASSEMBLYWOMAN, 20TH DISTRICT  
ANGEL FUENTES  
ASSEMBLYMAN, 5TH DISTRICT

NELLIE POU, CHAIR  
ASSEMBLYWOMAN, 35TH DISTRICT  
M. TERESA RUIZ  
SENATOR, 29TH DISTRICT

VINCENT PRIETO  
ASSEMBLYMAN, 32ND DISTRICT  
RUBEN J. RAMOS, JR.  
ASSEMBLYMAN, 33RD DISTRICT  
CARIDAD RODRIGUEZ  
ASSEMBLYWOMAN, 33RD DISTRICT

June 24, 2011

Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey  
P.O. Box 25562  
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the New Jersey State Legislature Latino Caucus it is an honor to extend support and congratulations to the Hispanic Bar Association on its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards. As always, we applaud the dedicated work of this year's honorees, The Honorable Jose Linares, Juan Cartagena, Esq. and the law firm of Lowenstein Sandler, whose achievements embody the mission of the Hispanic Bar Association: heralding diversity to ensure professional excellence, community service and equal access to justice and opportunity. Moreover, this year's gala bridges the past and future as the evening's proceeds will benefit deserving law students whose talent is destined to impact the profession and the community.

Congratulations again to this year's very deserving award recipients, honorees and the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey for your vision, commitment and advocacy.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nellie Pou".

Nellie Pou, Assemblywoman  
Chair, New Jersey Legislative Latino Caucus



**CORY A. BOOKER**  
MAYOR  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY  
07102

July 16, 2011

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Newark, it gives me great pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending the 30th Annual Scholarship Gala of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey (HBA-NJ).

For 31 years the HBA-NJ has been at the forefront of efforts to diversify the legal profession, advocating and providing a voice for the Hispanic community, as well as creating opportunities for Hispanic law students, lawyers and other legal professionals. This year's theme "Celebrating Excellence Through Diversity", recognizes the outstanding work of tonight's honored guests and rising scholars.

The HBA-NJ is comprised of dedicated professionals who have demonstrated the utmost in their commitment to serve the public's interest and promote the advancement of Hispanic-Americans in the legal community. I join with all of you in applauding their many achievements. Congratulations to the very deserving award recipients and honorees and to the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey for your vision, commitment and advocacy.

Best wishes to all for an enjoyable and successful event.

Warm regards,

## PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE HBA-NJ

Margarita Echevarria, Esq. 1980-1981  
Hon. Severiano Lisboa, III, J.S.C. 1981-1982  
Hon. Héctor E. Desoto, J.S.C. 1982-1983  
Zulima V. Farber, Esq. 1983-1984  
Hon. Hector R. Velázquez, J.S.C. 1984-1985  
Griselle Camacho-Pagán, Esq. 1985-1986  
Joseph A. Ginarte, Esq. 1986-1987  
Virginia Class-Matthews, Esq. 1987-1988  
Raúl F. Tous, Esq. 1988-1989  
Hon. Roberto Alcázar, J.S.C. 1989-1990  
Edwin Flores, Esq. 1990-1991  
Daniel R. Guadalupe, Esq. 1991-1992  
Aída L. Cabello, Esq. 1992-1993  
Hon. Estela M. de la Cruz, J.S.C. 1993-1994  
Rafael Pérez, Esq. 1994-1995  
Hon. José L. Linares, U.S.D.J. 1995-1996  
Hon. Lourdes I. Santiago, J.S.C. 1996-1997  
Marco A. González, Esq. 1997-1998  
Ramón de la Cruz, Esq. 1998-1999  
Maritza Berdote Byrne, Esq. 1999-2000  
Illeana Montes, Esq. 2000-2001  
Hon. Esther Salas, U.S.D.J. 2001-2002  
Hon. Pedro J. Jiménez, Jr., J.S.C. 2002-2003  
Carlos Ortiz, Esq. 2003-2004  
Camelia M. Valdes, Esq. 2004-2005  
Liza M. López, Esq. 2005-2006  
Ivette R. Álvarez, Esq. 2006-2007  
Milagros Camacho, Esq. 2007-2008  
George Ríos, Esq. 2008-2009  
Miguel Alexander Pozo, Esq. 2009-2010

# JUDICIARY OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY HISPANIC JUDGES

## FEDERAL

### CIRCUIT

Hon. Julio M. Fuentes *U.S. Court of Appeals*

### DISTRICT

Hon. Jose L. Linares *U.S. District Court*  
Hon. Joseph H. Rodríguez *U.S. District Court*  
Hon. Esther Salas *U.S. District Court*

### ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Hon. Esmeralda C. Cabrera *U.S. Immigration Court*  
Hon. Alberto J. Riefkohl *U.S. Immigration Court*

### STATE

#### SUPREME COURT

Hon. Roberto A. Rivera-Soto

#### APPELLATE DIVISION

Hon. Carmen H. Álvarez

Hon. Marianne Espinosa

Hon. José L. Fuentes

Hon. Ariel A. Rodríguez

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Hon. Liliana S. DeAvila-Silebi  
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Hon. Estela M. De La Cruz  
Hon. Paul Escandón  
Hon. Marianne Espinosa  
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Hon. Néstor Guzmán  
Hon. Álvaro L. Iglesias  
Hon. Pedro J. Jiménez, Jr.  
Hon. Severiano Lisboa III

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*Bergen Vicinage*  
*Passaic Vicinage*  
*Bergen Vicinage*  
*Monmouth Vicinage*  
*Union Vicinage*  
*Camden Vicinage*  
*Passaic Vicinage*  
*Hudson Vicinage*  
*Mercer Vicinage*  
*Hudson Vicinage*

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Hon. Julio L. Méndez  
Hon. Dennis V. Nieves  
Hon. Lisa Pérez-Friscia  
Hon. Alberto Rivas  
Hon. Mathias E. Rodríguez (Ret.)  
Hon. Lourdes I. Santiago  
Hon. Ramona A. Santiago  
Hon. Esther Suárez  
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Hon. Hector R. Velázquez

*Camden Vicinage*  
*Cumberland Vicinage*  
*Middlesex Vicinage*  
*Bergen Vicinage*  
*Middlesex Vicinage*  
*Middlesex Vicinage*  
*Hudson Vicinage*  
*Essex Vicinage*  
*Hudson Vicinage*  
*Essex Vicinage*  
*Hudson Vicinage*

Hon. Yolanda Adrianzen

Hon. Arcides Cruz  
Hon. Rose Mary Granados

Hon. José A. Laboy

#### STATE ADMINISTRATION LAW

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Hon. Joaquín Calcines, Jr.  
Hon. María Del Valle-Koch  
Hon. Amarilis A. Diaz  
Hon. Sixto L. Macías  
Hon. Luis A. Martínez  
Hon. Maribel Martínez  
Hon. Teófilo Montañez-Santiago  
Hon. Roman A. Montes  
Hon. Diane E. Montes-Infante  
Hon. Ana G. Moreira

*Paterson*  
*Perth Amboy*  
*West New York*  
*Union City*  
*Bogata*  
*Passaic*  
*Camden*  
*Elizabeth*  
*Newark*  
*Jersey City*

Hon. Julio C. Mórejon  
Hon. Lilia A. Muñoz  
Hon. Richard T. Nieto  
Hon. Walter Oliveras  
Hon. Anna P. Pereira  
Hon. Nesle A. Rodríguez  
Hon. Xavier Rodríguez  
Hon. Radamés Velázquez, Jr.  
Hon. José Vélez  
Hon. Amílkar Vélez-López

*West New York*  
*Union City*  
*Jersey City*  
*Newark*  
*Newark*  
*Jersey City*  
*Passaic*  
*Jersey City*  
*Vineland*  
*Newark*

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER JUAN CARTAGENA, ESQ. RECIPIENT OF THE LEGACY AWARD

Juan Cartagena, a civil rights and constitutional law attorney who was born, raised and still lives in Jersey City, is the new President and General Counsel at LatinoJustice PRLDEF—one of the country's leading civil rights organizations that combats discrimination against Latino residents of the Untied States.

Mr. Cartagena is a former Municipal Court Judge in the City of Hoboken and has lectured at Rutgers University in New Brunswick since 1992 teaching a constitutional and civil rights law course and training future Latina and Latino lawyers at the undergraduate level. Mr. Cartagena has also taught at St. Peter's College in Jersey City.

In New Jersey, Juan has been appointed to Governor Corzine's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy; the New Jersey Attorney General's Help America Voter Act State Plan Committee; and the New Jersey Supreme Court Standing Committee on Minority Concerns. Juan has served on the board of non-profit organizations in New Jersey including New Jersey Appleseed, Hudson County Legal Services, Corp., Kenmare High School, and the Learning Community Charter School. Since 2005, Juan serves as General Counsel to the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey.

He has been active in numerous community mobilization efforts within New Jersey's Latino community including his efforts as a spokesperson for the Hudson County Committee in Support of Vieques, Puerto Rico. He organized and directly participated in civil disobedience arrests in front of a military recruitment center in Jersey City and before the United Nations as a way to highlight the atrocities of the Naval bombing of Vieques.

Mr. Cartagena is also actively involved in the cultural arts leading New Jersey's premier Bomba and Plena dance and drum ensemble, Segunda Quimbamba and making presentations on the traditions of Puerto Rico's drums. Juan's community work has garnered a



number of awards including the Freedom Fighter Award from the Jersey City NAACP; the Don Pedro Albizu Campos Award from the Jersey City Borinqueen Lions Club; the Hudson County Community College Heritage Award; NJ Hispanic Research and Information Center's Maria DeCastro Blake Community Service Award; and the NJ Commission on Professionalism in the Law's Professional Lawyer of the Year Award.

Juan has litigated a number of important cases in New Jersey that address the rights of historically excluded segments of our residents including *Vargas v. Hudson County Board of Elections*, which challenged discriminatory election-day challenges to black and Latino voters and resulted in reforms that were later applied state-wide by the Legislature; *Puerto Rican Education Coalition v. Jersey City Board of Education*, which established the rights of Spanish-dominant school children with special needs; and *Comité de Trabajadores v. Freehold*, an important day laborer case where Juan served as local counsel.

A graduate of Dartmouth College and Columbia University Law School, Mr. Cartagena's most recent article about New Jersey, "New Jersey's Multi-Member Legislative Districts and Latino Political Power," was published in 2005 by the Rutgers Race and the Law Review.

Using the courts and community education and mobilization, Juan is now addressing the discriminatory nature of mass imprisonment policies and felon disenfranchisement laws. His most recent article on the topic, "Lost Votes, Lost Bodies, Lost Jobs: The Effects of Mass Incarceration on Latino Civil Engagement," is published in *Behind Bars: Latinos/as and Prison in the United States*. Mr. Cartagena is also frequently invited to speak to students about the role of the law in our diverse society and the joy of public interest lawyering.

Juan lives in Downtown Jersey City with his wife Nanette Hernández and their son Mateo and daughter Rosa.

## THE HONORABLE JOSE LINARES, U.S.D.J. RECIPIENT OF THE MARGARITA ECHEVARRIA TRAILBLAZER AWARD

Judge Linares was born on November 30, 1953 in Havana, Cuba. He is the oldest of five sons. His parents, Jose and Mercedes Linares, were also natives of Cuba and were both educators by profession.

The Linares family fled Castro's Cuba in 1966. At that time, Judge Linares was twelve-years old and had completed his sixth-grade education. The Linares Family then consisted of Jose Linares, Sr., Mercedes Linares and four sons (the Judge being the eldest). Their migration to the United States took them through Spain where they lived for approximately seven months. It was during that time that the Judge completed his seventh grade and his youngest brother was born.

The Linares Family arrived in the United States in August of 1966 and settled in Newark, New Jersey where all five children were raised. Jose Linares, Sr., and Mercedes Linares both went back to college in the United States and both obtained their Master's and teaching degrees. Thereafter, they both taught in the Newark School System until their retirement.

Judge Linares attended Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair, New Jersey and subsequently, attended Jersey City University. After college, the Judge attended Temple Law School where he excelled as a student making the Dean's List the very first semester.

Judge Linares' first job as a lawyer was that of an investigating attorney for the New York City Department of Investigation under then-Commissioner Stanley Lupkin. Subsequently, he became an associate with the private law firm of Horowitz, Bross & Sinins in Newark, New Jersey where he honed his skills as a litigator in both civil and criminal matters. Eventually, in 1982, the Judge established his own law firm in Bloomfield, New Jersey and, as a senior partner, tried numerous complicated medical malpractice and products liability cases, which cemented a well-deserved reputation as a trial attorney. During his years as an attorney, the Judge also served in many professional committees and lectured extensively to law students and lawyers. He served in the Essex County Bar Association Ethics



Committee, the New Jersey Supreme Court Board on Trial Attorney Certification (being a certified civil trial attorney himself), the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Model Civil Jury Charges, and was President of the New Jersey Hispanic Bar Association and Bloomfield Lawyer's Club. He was also Vice-Chair of the Essex County Bench-Bar Committee. The Judge also received numerous awards including the Essex County Bar Association Civil Trial Attorney Achievement Award and the Seton Hall Law School Latino Students Role

### Model Award.

In addition to his many achievements in the legal profession, the Judge also dedicates his time to civic non-profit related activities. He has served on the Board of Trustees of Immaculate Conception High School, Job Haines Home, the Essex County College and the Cuban Lions Club. He also volunteers in the West Caldwell Youth Athletic Program and lectures often at seminars on important law-related issues. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at Seton Hall Law School and a Fellow of the American Bar.

Judge Linares' judicial career began when he was appointed to the Essex County Superior Court Bench on December 13, 2000 by the then-Governor of New Jersey, the Honorable Christine Todd Whitman. Judge Linares sat in the Civil Division and handled mostly complicated and substantial medical malpractice cases. He was nominated to the Federal District Court Bench for the District of New Jersey by President George W. Bush on August 8, 2002. His nomination was confirmed by the United States Senate on November 14, 2002 and commissioned by the United States President on December 3, 2002. He presently sits as a Federal District Court Judge for the District of New Jersey in Newark. He is the first Hispanic to hold that position in the Newark Vicinage and the second foreign born to be a Federal District Court Judge in New Jersey's history. During his tenure on the Federal Bench, the Judge has presided on numerous high profile and legally complex cases and has written and published numerous legal opinions.

## LOWENSTEIN SANDLER

### RECIPIENT OF THE CORPORATE LAW DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

For thirty-one years now, the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey ("HBA-NJ") has been at the forefront of diversifying the legal profession, advocating for the Hispanic community, and creating opportunities for Hispanic law students, lawyers, judges, and legal professionals. Our high goals, and indeed our many successes in our endeavors, would not be possible without the support of our many corporate and law firm sponsors. These sponsors have committed themselves to creating opportunities for women and minorities, and to diversifying the legal profession through financial support, job creation, and opportunities for training and promotion.

The HBA-NJ is proud to award the HBA-NJ's Corporate Law Department of the Year Award to Lowenstein Sandler. We honor Lowenstein Sandler because it has demonstrated a remarkable commitment in its partnership with our organization. Lowenstein Sandler embodies the highest ideals of our legal community and has demonstrated a relentless commitment to excellence and diversity in our profession. The HBA-NJ is especially proud to recognize two partners at Lowenstein Sandler, Miguel Alexander Pozo and Zulima Farber for their leadership, service and commitment.

Alan V. Lowenstein founded Lowenstein Sandler in Newark, New Jersey along with Richard M. Sandler, Joseph LeVow Steinberg, Benedict M. Kohl and Arnold Fisher in 1961. Mr. Lowenstein, admired for his professional excellence, leadership, integrity and passion for the underprivileged, set a standard of "meritocracy" for Lowenstein Sandler in which lawyers of character and ability are welcomed regardless of race or creed. His vision and leadership helped create the firm it is today—one that embraces the ideals of professional excellence, commitment to its clients' interests, civic duty and diversity. In the 50 years since its founding, the firm has grown from five attorneys to more than 250 with offices in New York City, Palo Alto, California and Roseland, New Jersey. The firm is now a full-service, nationally recognized law firm regularly cited for excellence by clients and peers in national publications, including *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* and *The Legal 500*.

Since its founding, the firm has been deeply

committed to diversity, as reflected in the composition of the firm at all levels, and in its policies and programs to encourage the recruitment, retention, and promotion of lawyers of diverse backgrounds. These policies and programs include promoting service in leadership roles in state and nationally-sponsored minority bar associations (Miguel Alexander Pozo, is the NJ Regional President of the Hispanic National Bar Association and Miguel and Zulima Farber are both past presidents of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, the 30th President and 4th President, respectively); partnering with the Rutgers Minority Student Program (MSP), through which the firm hires at least one first-year minority student as a summer law clerk and also provides funding for a student to work for the summer in the public interest or government sector; providing annual scholarships, through the Lowenstein Scholars Program, to first-year law students of diverse backgrounds, accompanied by fully-paid summer internships with Lowenstein; and promoting women through our externally facing women's initiative, STRIDES@—Advancing Women in Business, an initiative led by partners Mary J. Hildebrand and Christine Osvald-Mruz, that reaches out to executive-level women in the business community. In 2009, the firm launched *DiversityisNatural.com*, a new Web site dedicated to fostering the advancement of women and minority attorneys.

The firm is also committed to serving the public good. Our founding principles continue to be the model for our practice—to provide the highest quality of service, dedication, and commitment to both our clients and the community. In 2008, the firm launched the Lowenstein Center for the Public Interest, reaffirming and expanding the firm's dedication to addressing significant social issues and providing community assistance. As part of the program, five Lowenstein associates and counsel dedicate 25 percent of their time to the Center's projects and help spearhead the firm's overall pro bono efforts, which in 2010 totaled more than 23,680 hours of attorney participation. The Center, led by Kenneth Zimmerman, partner, and former chief counsel to Governor Jon Corzine, focuses on six areas—children and education; immigration; criminal justice; civil and human rights; the arts; and sustainable community development.

# GARY M. WINGENS, ESQ.

## CHAIRMAN/CEO OF LOWENSTEIN SANDLER

### RECIPIENT OF THE CORPORATE LAW DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Gary Wingens is Chairman and CEO of Lowenstein Sandler. Gary leads the firm's mortgage finance practice and is featured among The Best Lawyers in America for his structured finance practice.

Gary's transactional practice spans the areas of structured finance and mortgage finance, commercial real estate and business acquisitions and dispositions. He also actively counsels clients in a wide variety of matters of significance to their business. For example, Gary has represented financial institutions of all sizes in the development of programs related to the acquisition, financing, warehousing and disposition of real estate related loans and other assets. He has represented buyers and sellers in hundreds of billions of dollars of mortgage and servicing related acquisitions, financing, dispositions and servicing transactions. With the



firm's bankruptcy group, he has also counseled clients in acquiring distressed assets out of bankruptcy proceedings. In more traditional practices, Gary has broad experience in commercial real estate acquisitions, financing and leasing programs.

Gary is a member of the Council of Trustees of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (where he also serves as outside counsel), the Brandeis University Alumni Board, as well as the Executive Committee of United Jewish Communities of MetroWest and the Board of Jewish Family Services. Gary was Board President of Solomon Schechter Day School of Essex and Union from 2004-06 and currently chairs the UJC Metrowest Unified Allocations Committee. He was previously a member of the Board of Trustees of the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey (2000-2010).

## SPECIAL HONOREE JOHNNY PACHECO

Born in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, Johnny Pacheco inherited his father's passion for music – Rafael Azarias Pacheco was the bandleader and clarinetist of the famous Santa Cecilia Orchestra. When he was eleven, the family moved to the Bronx, New York, where he learned to play the accordion, violin, saxophone and clarinet. At the Juilliard School of Music, he studied percussion and became the leading percussionist of the time.

For more than fifty years Mr. Pacheco, known as "El Maestro," has been one of the most in-demand artists in the music industry, performing as a soloist and guest artist in many international jazz festivals, and has been at the center of the Latin music universe. He has authored more than 150 songs, most of which are classics. He pioneered an unforgettable musical era that changed the face of the tropical music history—the Fania All-Stars era. Mr. Pacheco is hailed as a pioneer, an innovator, and a living legend for his remarkable contributions to the world of music.

Mr. Pacheco's nine Grammy nominations, ten Gold records, and numerous awards pay tribute to his talent as composer, arranger, bandleader, and producer. These recognitions include the Presidential Medal of Honor from the President of the Dominican Republic, the first



"International Dominican Artist Award" from the Casandra Awards—which is the Dominican Republic's version of the Grammys—and the "Bobby Capo Lifetime Achievement Award" presented by Governor George Pataki. He was also the first Latin music producer to receive the "Governor's Award" in New York from the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, and in 1998, he was inducted into the International Latin Music Hall of Fame. Over the past decade, Mr. Pacheco's accomplishments and recognitions have continued to grow. In 2002, he received a Latin Grammy for "Best Producer" and in 2004, the "Silver Pen" from the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) for his accomplishments in music composition. In 2005, Johnny received the Latin Recording Academy's "Lifetime Achievement Award" and in 2010, he was presented with the "El Soberano Award"—the highest music recognition given by the Casandra Awards.

Deeply committed to the improvement of the Latin community worldwide, Mr. Pacheco has demonstrated support with the victims of natural disasters through concerts to benefit survivors. In 1994, he established the "Johnny Pacheco Scholarship Fund" to assist future musicians and to demonstrate his commitment to higher education.

# HBA-NJ'S 30TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA RECIPIENTS

## WELLS FARGO SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Andres Acebo, Rutgers Newark (3L)

Miriam Acevedo, Rutgers Newark (3L)

## LOWENSTEIN SANDLER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

David Acosta, Rutgers Newark (2L)

Guillermo Carlo Artiles, Rutgers Newark (2L)

## MCCARTER AND ENGLISH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Elsie Gonzalez, Seton Hall (2L)

## PATTON BOGGS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Tannia Muñoz, Rutgers Camden (3L)

## DAY PITNEY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Kathy Oviedo, Rutgers Newark (2L)

## PRUDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Jacqueline Peña, Seton Hall (2L)

## IN MEMORY OF ANTONIO DE LA CARRERA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Alison (Ali) Puente-Douglass, New York University (1L)

Cristal Reyes, Seton Hall (3L)

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HBA-NJ'S 31ST ANNUAL INSTALLATION AND SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

The HBA-NJ held its 31st Annual Installation and Swearing-In Ceremony aboard the *Cornucopia Majesty* on October 28, 2010. The Hon. Mathias E. Rodriguez, J.S.C. (Ret.) installed the President Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq. and the 2010-2011 Officers and Trustees.



1. From Left: Hon. Mathias E. Rodriguez, J.S.C. (Ret.), Senator Robert Menendez, Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq. 2. From Left: Juan Cartagena, Esq., Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq., Miguel A. Pozo, Esq. 3. From Left: Monica de los Rios, Esq., Arlene Quinones Perez, Esq., Geida Sanlate, Esq., Mathew Konigsberg Fernandez, Esq. 4. From Left: Jaclyn Medina, Esq., Juan Cartagena, Esq., Jose Bastarrika, Esq., Louis Acevedo, Esq. 5. From Left: Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, Hon. Mathias E. Rodriguez, J.S.C. (Ret.). 6. Front: Hon. Travis L. Francis, A.J.S.C. Back: Juan Cartagena, Esq. 7. Dancing Aboard the *Cornucopia Majesty*. 8. From Left: Jerry M. Newler, CPA/CFF, Ivette Alvarez, Esq.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HBA-NJ'S YOUNG LAWYERS COMMITTEE EVENTS

The HBA-NJ's Young Lawyers Committee held a series of events including a Holiday Mixer, a Toy Drive, a Sandwich Drive, and a Food Bank Volunteering Event.



1. From Left: Carmen V. Carrillo, Esq., Matthew Fernandez Konigsberg, Esq. 2. Jorge Estrada, Esq. 3. From Left: William Ferreira, Esq., Melinda Colón, Esq., Louis Acevedo, Esq., Cecily Velez, Esq., Julia López, Esq. 4. From Left: Daniel Mateo, Esq., Eileen Vega-Lamboy, Manny Ferrao. 5. Volunteers at the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. 6. From Left: Monica de los Rios, Esq., Bobby Conner, Esq. 7-8. Volunteers at the Sandwich Drive.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HBA-NJ'S 10TH ANNUAL SUN, SURF AND SEMINARS

The HBA-NJ held its 10th Annual Sun, Surf and Seminars at La Concha Resort in San Juan, Puerto Rico on June 15-19, 2011. The retreat featured seminars covering developments in estate planning, motion practice, family law, criminal law, and employment law.



1. Adalgiza Nuñez, Esq. 2. From Left: Hon. Melvin Kracov, J.S.C. (Ret.), Hon. Alberto Rivas, J.S.C., Hon. Mathias E. Rodriguez, J.S.C. (Ret.) 3. From Left: Miguel A. Pozo, Esq., Jose M. Rivera, CIMA, CPWA. 4. From Left: Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq., Ivette Alvarez, Esq. 5. From Left: Hon. Hector R. Velazquez, J.S.C., Hon. Lourdes I. Santiago, J.S.C. 6. From Left: Hon. Alberto Rivas, J.S.C., Peter Harvey, Esq., Hon. Mathias E. Rodriguez, J.S.C. (Ret.) 7. Front: Henry Rinder, CPA. 8. Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq., Hildamar Ortiz, Esq.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HBA-NJ'S SIGNATURE EVENTS

# WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The HBA-NJ held its 2011 Women's Leadership Conference on March 26, 2011 at Seton Hall Law School. The panel discussed issues involving work-life balance, job searching tips, and financial independence. The HBA-NJ received the Hispanic National Bar Association's Affiliate Grant—a national award that recognized the HBA-NJ's commitment to Latinas during Women's History Month.



1. From Left: Elsie Gonzalez, Kim V. Mercado-Washington, Esq., Laura Corvo, Esq., Marysol Rosero, Esq., Anna Maria Tejada, Esq. 2. From Left: Betty Rodriguez, Esq., Hon. Lourdes J. Santiago, J.S.C., Hon. Estela M. De La Cruz, J.S.C.

## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

On April 13, 2011, as part of its Mentoring Program, the HBA-NJ presented a panel to its law students on networking techniques. This past year, the HBA-NJ's Mentorship Program also held a roundtable discussion on the recruitment process and a kick-off reception.



1. From Left: Daniel Mateo, Esq., Matthew Konigsberg Fernandez, Esq., Edward Mullins, Esq., Geida Sanlate, Esq., Melinda Colón, Esq., Amy McVeigh, Esq., Albertina Webb, Esq. 2. Mentors and Mentees

#### WINNING

The HBA-NJ held its Annual Wine Tasting on January 20, 2011 at the Theatre Square Grill at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. The tasting featured Chilean and Argentine wines and food.



1. From Left: David Acosta, Elsie Gonzalez, Gelda Sanlote, Eso., Kathy Oviedo, 2. Guests enjoying the wine tasting and dinner.



# THE HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

## 2011 - 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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July 21, 2011 Diverse Summer Associate Mixer The Chart House Weehawken, NJ	November 19, 2011 Volunteer Sandwich Drive Rutgers School of Law-Newark Newark, NJ	March 28 - 31, 2012 Hispanic National Bar Association 2012 Mid-Year Conference Westin Jersey City Newport Jersey City, NJ
August 20, 2011 Street Law Project	December 8, 2011 Annual Holiday Mixer and Toy Drive	April 5, 2012 YLC Bar Studying Tips and Strategies for Graduating 3Ls Rutgers School of Law-Newark Newark, NJ
August 24, 2011 YLC Congratulatory Mixer for 2011 Law School Graduates	December 17, 2011 Annual Volunteer Food Bank Day Community Food Bank of NJ Hillside, NJ	April 29 to May 6, 2012 11th Annual Sun, Surf and Seminars
September 17, 2011 Civics Education Initiative Essex-Newark New Jersey Legal Services Office Newark, NJ	January 19, 2012 Annual Wine Tasting Event	May 19, 2012 Civics Education Initiative New Brunswick, NJ
October 28, 2011 32nd Annual Officer Swearing- in and Installation Ceremony Adventure Aquarium Camden, NJ	February 25, 2012 Civics Education Initiative Trenton, NJ	June 16, 2012 31st Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner and Gala Hyatt Regency Jersey City Jersey City, NJ



## HNBA MID-YEAR CONFERENCE SAVE THE DATE



### SAVE THE DATE

## New Jersey GATEWAY TO AMERICA



The 2012 Hispanic National Bar Association Corporate Counsel Conference and 17th Annual Uvaldo Herrera National Moot Court Competition will be held from Wednesday, March 28 through Saturday, March 31, 2012 at the Westin Jersey City, Newport

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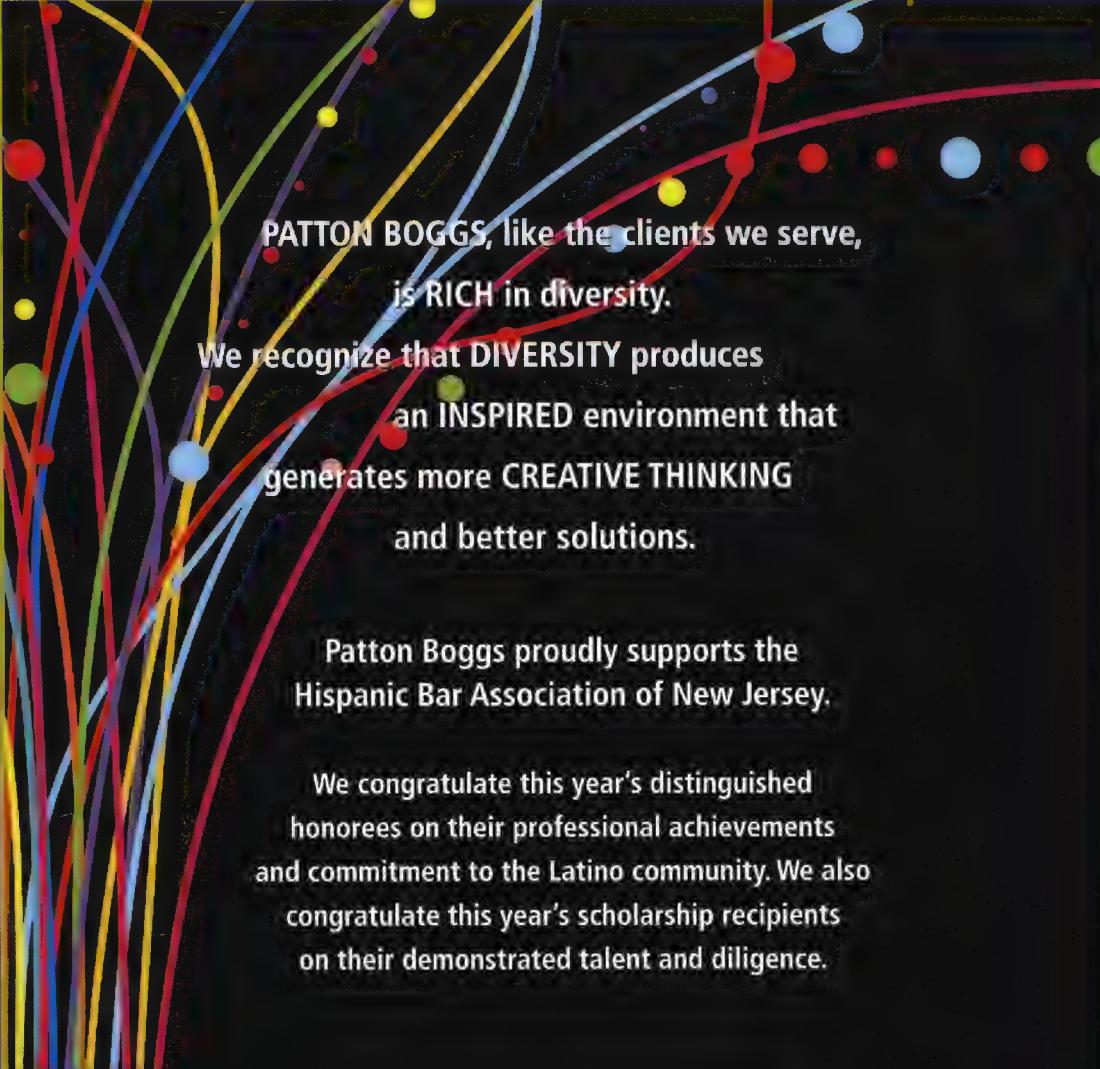
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Day Pitney LLP is a proud supporter of the  
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30th Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards Dinner***  
and we congratulate the Special Honoree and Special Award Recipients:

**SPECIAL HONOREE**

**Johnny Pacheco**  
*Founder of Fania Records  
"Fania All-Stars"*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Juan Cartagena**  
*President and General Counsel of LatinoJustice PRLDEF  
Recipient of the Legacy Award*

**SPECIAL AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**Honorable Jose Linares, U.S.D.J.**  
United States District Court, District of New Jersey  
*Recipient of the Annual Margarita Echevarria  
Trailblazer Award*

**Zulima Farber, Esq. and Miguel A. Pozo, Esq.**  
Lowenstein Sandler  
*Recipient of the Annual Corporate Law Department  
of the Year Award*



Diversity is a core firm value at Day Pitney. We embrace diversity because we understand that the input of professionals with varying perspectives invites innovation and creativity, which, in turn, better equips us to serve our clients. We are dedicated to maintaining our focus to achieve meaningful and lasting results. We are proud of what we have achieved so far, but realize that there is still much to do. We remain committed to supporting diversity within our firm and in the communities in which we practice.

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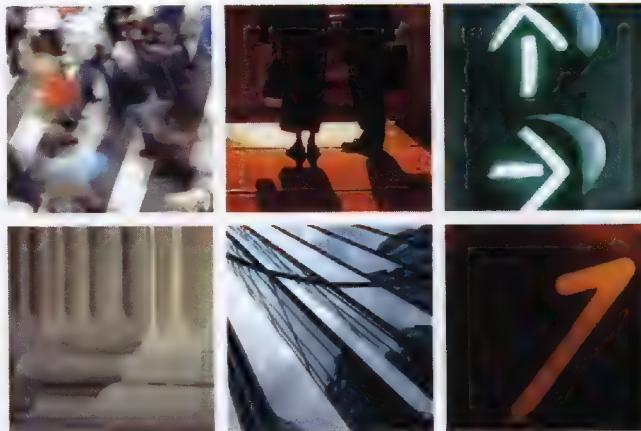
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**Congratulations to the 2011 Honorees!**

Photo courtesy of the Hispanic Bar Association of NJ

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1936

1958

1977

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2011



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Juan Cartagena, Esq.

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- 2010 National Association of Women Lawyer's President's Award in recognition of initiatives to advance women and minority attorneys both in-house and in outside law firms.
- Working Mother Magazine's "100 Best Companies" (1999-2009)
- Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Corporate Equality Index "Best Places to Work" (2003-2009)
- DiversityInc "Top 50 Companies for Diversity" (2009)
- Hispanic Business Magazine's "Diversity Elite 2009"

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and congratulate all of tonight's award recipients



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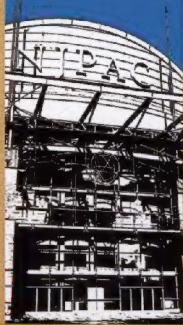
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